

"From the cowardice that shrinks from new truth, from the laziness that is content with half-truths, from the arrogance that thinks it knows all truth, O, God of Truth, deliver us."



A Controversial Newsletter "The Printed Voice of Summit Theological Seminary"

~ All articles are written by George L. Faull, Rel. D. unless otherwise stated ~

Vol. 30 No. 1

January 2017

George L. Faull, Editor

Hyphenated-Christians?

President Theodore Roosevelt declared: "There is no room in this country for hyphenated Americanism... When I refer to hyphenated Americans, I do not refer to naturalized Americans, Americans born abroad. But a hyphenated American is not an American at all".

"This is just as true of the man who puts "native" before the hyphen as of the man who puts German or Irish or English or French before the hyphen. Americanism is a matter of the spirit and of the soul. Our allegiance must be purely to the United States. We must unsparingly condemn any man who holds any other allegiance".

"But if he is heartily and singly loyal to this Republic, then no matter where he was born, he is just as good an American as anyone else".

"The one absolutely certain way of bringing this nation to ruin, of preventing all possibility of its continuing to be a nation at all, would be to permit it to become a tangle of squabbling nationalities, an intricate knot of German-Americans, Irish-Americans, English-Americans, French-Americans, Scandanavian-Americans, or Italian-Americans - each preserving its separate nationality, each at heart feeling more sympathetic with Europeans of that nationality than with the citizens of the American Republic".

"The men who do not become Americans and nothing else are hyphenated Americans; and there ought to be no room for them in this country. The man who calls himself an American citizen and who yet shows by his actions that he is primarily the citizen of a foreign land, plays a thoroughly mischievous part in the life of our body politic. He has no place here; and the sooner he returns to the land to which he feels his real heart-allegiance, the better it will be for every good American".

President Woodrow Wilson put it like this.... "A man who thinks of himself as belonging to a particular national group in America has not yet become an American".

In light of these intelligent statements, one wonders why men still insist on being called hyphenated Americans except for special attention, privileges, and advantages.



Cartoon from Puck, August 9, 1899. Uncle Sam sees hyphenated voters and asks, "Why should I let these freaks cast whole ballots when they are only half Americans?"

Why not apply this principal to what the two Presidents reasoned to hyphenated-Christians.... Baptist-Christians, Nazarene-Christians, Methodist-Christians, Lutheran-Christians, Charismatic-Christians, Pentecostal-Christians, Evangelical-Christians, etc. Is Roosevelt right?

Read Roosevelt again and substitute the hyphenated-Christian for Americans. Or Wilson's claim, "A man who thinks of himself as belonging to a particular Church group in Christendom has not yet become a Christian."

There is no other name that should be united to the name Christian. It is the Lord's chosen name foretold in **Isaiah 62:2**, "**And the Gentiles shall see thy righteousness, and all kings thy glory: and thou shalt be called by a new name, which the mouth of the LORD shall name.**"

This began in **Acts 11:26** when they were called of God after Gentiles saw His righteousness.

"And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. **And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.**" – **Acts 11:26**

It is only that Name for which we should suffer – **1 Peter 4:16**, “Yet if *any man suffer* as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf.”

I think we should refuse to be called a hyphenated-Christian. Being a hyphenated-Christian also causes squabbling and disunity. To intentionally do so does not reflect upon us as being a real Christian or one who is submitting to the High Priestly prayer of Jesus for unity.

John 17:11, “And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, which they may be one, as we *are*.”